Multi-purpose and Irrigation Projects", a provision is specifically made for drinking water supply, both for urban and rural, as one of the components of the project, wherever there is no alternative source of drinking water.

Hurdles in Construction of Pagladia Project

304. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the progress in construction of Pagladia Project in Assam;

(b) whether all hurdles have been overcome; and

(c) if not, what measures have been contemplated to overcome them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: (a) Pre-construction activities including geological foundation investigation, construction and repairing of roads and bridges leading to the project site as found necessary has been initiated. The Government of Assam has already identified 18,000 bighas of land for rehabilitation and resettlement of the project affected families. Out of this, advance possession of 1,800 bighas has been taken over by Brahmaputra Board from State Government of Assam. Work of preparation of design and specification drawings has also been taken up.

(b) and (c) However, there is objection of a section of the Project Affected people which needs to be attended so as to facilitate the implementation of this project. Negotiation is going on with them through intermediaries and local Non-Government Organisations to sort out the issue. The Government of Assam have also assured necessary security cover as and when required.